

International Education Committee Meeting Minutes

October 6, 2016

Committee Members Present: Gareth Barkin, Alva W Butcher, Debbie C Chee, Eowyn L Greeno, Diane Kelley, Kriszta Kotsis, John R Lear, Zoe D Scott, Mike Z Spivey, Nicholai J Sekino.

Kelley called meeting to order at 3:45pm.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting on September 22, 2016 were approved

Presentation of Senate Charges, Peter Wimberger, Senate Liaison to IEC

The Senate approved the charges to the IEC with some minor changes. A standing charge of the IEC is to review and approve new and existing international education programs. The Senate requested that the standing charge on program review be modified to include language that as part of the review process, the IEC would eliminate programs that do not provide something distinctive (e.g. language, discipline, or geography) or are expensive. The Senate also modified Charge 3 so that the IEC would work with the Student Life Committee as well as the Committee on Diversity to develop recommendations for how Puget Sound can best recruit, welcome and support international students.

Consideration of Study Abroad in Israel

Debbie Chee reported on the increase in student interest in study abroad programs in Israel. As the policy now stands our protocol of observing State Department warnings precludes our students from participating in programs in Israel. The students noted that this protocol could lead to a systematic institutional discrimination against students of a certain culture and identity.

The State Department warning is for the entire state of Israel, with special attention to the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. Two of our NW peers, Willamette and Lewis and Clark, do not approve study abroad programs in Israel. On the other hand Reed and Whitman do approve programs in Israel.

After some discussion the IEC concluded that although it was sympathetic to the request of the students, it did have some serious concerns about safety issues. The IEC asked that the student group provide more clarification and put together a petition with special attention to safety issues. The ultimate decision would not be in the domain of the IEC as it would involve such issues as insurance and legal considerations.

Study Abroad Working Group (SAWG)

Lear, Barkin, and Kukreja provided an update on SAWG. Two subcommittees have been formed to consider long term goals and financial constraints. It was suggested that the IEC could serve as a sounding board. Once learning outcomes from study abroad have been identified, that might frame the discussion as to how resources are allocated towards those goals. In a quick brainstorming session the following goals/visions for study abroad at Puget Sound were suggested:

- Intercultural competence and cultural literacy
- Language acquisition
- Discipline or region specific knowledge/experience
- Enhanced teaching and learning on campus (because of international students)
- Availability of international study to all students regardless of financial situation
- Recognition of the value and place more emphasis on UPS faculty led programs

Kelley adjourned the meeting at 4:43pm

Respectfully submitted by Alva Butcher

Attachment: Senate Charges for the International Education Committee, Fall 2016

TO: International Education Committee

FROM: Peter Wimberger, Senate liaison to the IEC

DATE: 9/27/16

SUBJECT: Senate Charges to the IEC

Senate Charges for the International Education Committee:

In addition the standing charges set forth in the University Bylaws* the Senate charges the International Education Committee with the following:

Charge 1: With respect to the issue of sexual violence:

a: Continue the review of sexual violence policies at study abroad programs used by Puget Sound students.

b: Finalize and distribute the sexual violence crisis response documents drafted last year.

c: Develop sexual violence prevention and response training for Puget Sound faculty and staff involved in Puget Sound study abroad programs.

Charge 2a. Continue to review the current list of study abroad programs and eliminate programs that do not provide something distinctive (e.g. language, discipline, or geography) or are expensive.

2b: Develop language that clearly incorporates this charge into the standing charge that deals with program review.

Charge 3: In collaboration with the Committee on Diversity and the Student Life Committee, develop recommendations for how Puget Sound can best recruit, welcome and support international students.

Charge 4: Work with the Office of Institutional Research to gather and analyze study abroad participation rate data for students of color and first-generation students and, based on those findings, make recommendations to address any disparities in participation rates.

*The standing charges are:

1. Establish criteria and assessment procedures for international education programs.
2. Review and approve new and existing international education programs and program proposals, including programs led by University faculty.
3. Assist the Office of International Programs in selecting students for study abroad.
4. Represent the interests of the Faculty in international education.
5. Such other duties as may be assigned to it.